



## Increase State Investment in Victim Services

February 1, 2021

In collaboration, Minnesota's coalitions working to end violence and abuse request the State invest in victims/survivors.

- **\$4 million annual investment for Emergency Funds and Direct Client Assistance to support the needs of domestic and sexual violence victims and the victims of other crimes.** Current funds are woefully inadequate to address basic needs of crime victims. Administered by the Department of Public Safety's Office of Justice Programs (DPS/OJP).
- **\$10 million annually for community-based programming including domestic abuse transformation programming and restorative and transformative justice initiatives.** Funded through the Department of Corrections and administered by DPS/OJP.
- **\$1 million annually to sustain and strengthen the Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention competitive grant program that was initiated by the Council of Asian Pacific Minnesotans.** This will continue funding of a 2019 appropriation that is administered by the Department of Health.
- **\$7.5 million annual increase to fund housing through the Emergency Services Program (ESP).** ESP funding provides emergency shelter and safety from COVID-19 and violence (through congregate, scattered site, and motel settings). Domestic and sexual violence is a leading cause of family homelessness. Additionally, adults and children experience high rates of violence while homeless. ***This investment in ESP funding will directly benefit victim/survivors, help them to gain safety, and prevent further violence.*** A Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless initiative administered by the Department of Human Services/Office of Economic Opportunity.

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